

Hoplitis of ENA (east of 100th Meridian)

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Females:

1. Clypeus with a conspicuous erect tubercle apico-medially; clypeus much wider than long, width x length about about 3:1 or wider; scopa pale.....**robusta** (Nylander)

(circumboreal; Ontario, Quebec; not known from US)

Clypeus without an apico-medial tubercle or other projection; clypeus longer, WxL about 2:1; scopa variable, but usually pale.....2

2. Clypeus with apical margin crenulate to denticulate; mandible relatively long and narrow, (length x maximum width at apex, about 2:1), three-toothed, apical tooth much larger than others.....**anthocopoides** (Schenck)

(introduced from Old World; rare, NE US, Echium oligolege)

Clypeus with apical margin either entire, broadly concave or convex, or sometimes slightly undulate; mandible variable, **if** apical tooth much larger than others **then** scopa dark brown to blackish and mandible four-toothed.....3

3. Scopa dark brown; mandible much broader apically than basally; mandible with four teeth, apical tooth much larger than others; ST 6 with a stout, very short, apical mucro, sometimes concealed by pubescence.....**albifrons** (Kirby)

(boreal region south to transition zone; western NA forms of albifrons also have the ST 6 apical mucro)

Scopa pale; mandible width apically and basally approximate; **if** mandible with four teeth **then** apical tooth not much larger than others; ST 6 apically simple, entire, without a mucro.....4

4. Mandible with four teeth, these approximately similar in size and equidistant from each other; T1 anterior surface dull, tessellate; T6 with a thin, fragile, translucent lamella issuing from beneath the narrow, shelf-like apical margin of T6.....**spoliata** (Provancher)

(widespread in ENA; western NA "Chlorosmia" spp. are the only other Hoplitis that have the thin lamella on the underside of the T6 shelf)

Mandible with three teeth; T1 anterior surface shiny, without tessellation; T6 lacking a thin fragile lamella on the underside of its narrow, shelf-like apical margin.....5

5. Genal basket (this is the set of long, recurved hairs bordering the hypostomal area) well-developed, nearly all hairs bordering hypostome very strongly curled; shelf-like apical margin of T6 quite short.....6

Genal basket poorly developed, relatively few hairs bordering hypostome strongly curled, many straight hairs present; shelf-like apical margin of T6 longer, conspicuous, like the brim of a ball cap.....8

6. Clypeus medially with a narrow, shiny, somewhat raised longitudinal ridge; hind tibial spurs apically curved or weakly hooked, usually dark; scutellum “inflated” (convex); T3 and T4 with deep, transverse grooves basally.....**truncata** (Cresson)

(widespread in ENA; strongly associated with Fabaceae)

Clypeus finely, closely punctate throughout, without a medial, narrow, shiny, raised longitudinal ridge; hind tibial spurs straight throughout, usually pale in color; scutellum flattened; T3 and T4 only weakly grooved basally (all *Robertsonella* key here).....7

7. Females of the three species of *H. (Robertsonella)* are quite similar and difficult to separate reliably in the absence of associated males (which, conversely, are all quite distinct):

H. micheneri Mitchell tends to be the largest of the three; punctures on T1-T2 are finer and more scattered than in the other two, and the surface of T1-T2 tends to be shinier in *H. micheneri*. This species is strongly associated with *Amorpha fruticosa*, the other two species have never been collected from that plant species.

H. simplex Cresson and **H. nemophilae** Neff (manuscript name, in press) are virtually identical. Both are strongly associated with riparian areas and plants in the family Hydrophyllaceae.

8. Shelf-like margin of T6 thinly but completely pubescent ventrally; shelf-like apical margin of T6 complete (extends around entire apical margin of T6); T6 punctures usually as coarse, or coarser, as those on T5; interspaces on T5 shining, without microsculpture; T5 with apical fasciae usually complete or nearly complete; labrum longer than broad....**pilosifrons** (Cresson)

(widespread in ENA)

Shelf-like margin of T6 glabrous ventrally; shelf-like apical margin of T6 incomplete, narrowing and disappearing prior to reaching lateral corners of apical margin; T6 punctures usually finer and more dense than punctures on T5; interspaces on T5 tessellate; T5 lacking apical fasciae (occasionally present laterally); labrum broader than long.....**producta** (Cresson)

(widespread in ENA)